

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 11 are pending in this application. Claims 5 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 11 are allowed.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 5 and 10 under 35 USC 102(b) in view of the cited reference, EP 0 899 288 (EP'288). This reference does not anticipate the presently claimed invention or make it obvious.

However, please note that claims 5 and 10 have been cancelled as shown above. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

All of the remaining and pending claims 1-4, 6-9 and 11 are allowed.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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